

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions.

1-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for generating acknowledgement messages~~ comprising:
receiving a series of datagrams;
determining which of said series of datagrams have been incorrectly received;
generating a plurality of data units, each data unit having a status bit indicative of the status of the data unit and a plurality of spacing bits together forming a binary representation of a number indicative of the spacing between one incorrectly received datagram and a succeeding incorrectly received datagram; and
assembling said plurality of data units together into an acknowledgement message.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein one value of a status bit is indicative of its corresponding data unit not being the last data unit of a set of consecutive data units whose spacing bits together represent a number indicative of a spacing between one incorrectly received datagram and a succeeding incorrectly received datagram.

26. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein one ~~the other~~ value of a status bit in a datagram whose spacing bits represent a predetermined number is indicative of adjacent data units representing a number indicative of a number of consecutive incorrectly received datagrams.

27. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the said predetermined number is zero.

28. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the ~~an~~ acknowledgement message includes data identifying the set of datagrams whose reception is described by the message.

29. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein each data unit consists of four or more bits.

30. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein each datagram consists of four bits.

31. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 23, comprising the further step of transmitting said acknowledgement message to a transmitter of the datagrams.

32. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed claim 23, further comprising transmitting the acknowledgement message to a transmitter over wherein the communication link from the transmitter to the receiver comprises a radio link.

33. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the radio link is a cellular telephone radio link.

34. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 33, wherein the radio link is a wideband code division multiple access link.

35. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~for receiving a series of datagrams from a transmitter~~, comprising:

a datagram checking unit configured to determine which of a plurality of the datagrams received from a transmitter have been incorrectly received; and

an acknowledgement message generator configured to generate acknowledgement messages, each acknowledgement message comprising a plurality of a data units, each data unit comprising:

a status bit indicative of the status of the data unit; and

a plurality of spacing bits together forming a binary representation of a number indicative of the spacing between one incorrectly received datagram and a succeeding incorrectly received datagram.

36. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 35, comprising a transmitting unit configured to transmit the acknowledgement messages to the a-transmitter.

37. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 35, comprising a memory connected to the datagram checking unit configured to store information indicating which of the datagrams has been incorrectly received.

38. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 35, wherein each datagram comprises checksum information and the datagram checking unit is capable of calculating a checksum for a received datagram and comparing that checksum with the checksum information comprised in the datagram to determine whether the datagram is correctly received.

39. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 35, wherein each data unit consists of four bits.

40. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 35, wherein the acknowledgement generator is implemented in hardware.

41. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 35, wherein the apparatus is a radio receiver.

42. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in ~~any of~~ claim 35, wherein the apparatus is a cellular radio terminal.

43. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus A receiver for receiving a series of datagrams from a transmitter, comprising:~~

means for determining which of a series of the datagrams received from a transmitter have been incorrectly received; and

means for generating acknowledgement messages, each acknowledgement message comprising a plurality of a data units, each data unit comprising:

a status bit indicative of the status of the data unit; and

a plurality of spacing bits together forming a binary representation of a number indicative of the spacing between one incorrectly received datagram and a succeeding incorrectly received datagram.

44-48. (Canceled)